

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 975

TOKYO FOR AMB. FERGUSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UN, ECOSOC, RK

SUBJ: DIRECTOR SHIP OF UN CENTER ON

TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 2463

(B) STATE 64076

(C) STATE 67529

1. FOLLOWING INFO FROM MISSION BIO FILES AND MISS-OFFS
AND MAY BE OF USE TO DEPARTMENT IN CONSIDERING SUITABILITY
OF RAFEEUDDUN AHMED FOR POSITION AS DIRECTOR OF UN CENTER
ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS.

2. BORN OCT. 2, 1932, AHMED STUDIED HISTORY AND POLITICAL
SCIENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF PUNJAB AND HAS CERTIFICATE FROM
FLETCHER SCHOOL OF LAW AND DIPLOMACY. JOINED PAKISTANI
FOREIGN SERVICE IN 1955 AND SERVED IN PEKING, CAIRO, AND
OTTAWA BEFORE COMING TO PAKISTAN UN MISSION IN 1965
WHERE HE DEALY PRIMARILY WITH ECOSOC QUESTIONS, INCLUDING
UNCTAD, UNIDO, AND CDF. HE RETURNED TO ISLAMABAD IN 1968
AND HEADED OFFICE FOR UN AFFAIRS. SECRETARY-GENERAL REQUESTED
HIS SECONDMENT TO UN 18 MONTHS LATER.

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3. IN 1970, AHMED JOINED UN SECRETARIAT AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECOSOC. (AS REPORTED USUN 4439 OF MARCH 16, 1967, WE HAD URGED HIS APPOINTMENT TO A SIMILAR POST IN 1967 OVER A MORE SENIOR WESTERN CANDIDATE). SINCE 1973, HE HAS PRESENT POST OF DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES AND PROGRAM PLANNING OFFICE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

4. AHMED IS WELL-KNOWN TO SEVERAL MISS-OFFS AS HIGHLY ARTICULATE, COMPETENT, AND EVEN INNOVATIVE MIDDLE-LEVEL ADMINISTRATOR. HE HAS TAKEN A KEEN INTEREST IN MODERN ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY METHODS AND RELEVANT COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY. HE HAS AN EXTENSIVE AND DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF UN ACTIVITIES IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELDS, AND HAS PLAYED AN INSTRUMENTAL ROLE WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT IN EFFORTS TO RATIONALIZE UN MACHINERY.

5. HE IS CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF PRESENT PAKISTAN PERM SEC FOREIGN AFFAIRS AGA SHAHI AND MAY BE ASKED TO RETURN TO ISLAMABAD AS HIS CHEF-DE-CABINET. SIMILARLY HE HAS BEEN RUMORED TO BE IN CONTENTION FOR SIMILAR POSITION WITH UN SYG WALDHEIM.

6. AHMED HAS ALWAYS BEEN EXTREMELY FRIENDLY AND APPROACHABLE, AND HAS EARNED THE RESPECT OF ALL MIS-OFFS WHO HAVE WORKED WITH HIM. HE IS MARRIED TO CHARMING WIFE WHO IS GENERALLY

CONSIDERED A DEFINITE ASSET TO THIS POLITICAL AMBITIONS ONE SON(BORN 1973). LANGUAGES: FRENCH, ENGLISH.

7. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO CLEAR KNOWLEDGE OF AHMED'S VIEWS ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF HIS BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE, AHMED STRIKES US AS A VIABLE CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTORSHIP OF UN CENTER ACCEPTABLE TO G-77, EE'S AND WEO'S WHITE

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